

House Bill 281:

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my name is Marilyn Kriechbaum and this is in regards to house bill 281.

In 2008, the Guardian ad Litem appointed me as supervisor for my granddaughters. Our Guardian ad Litem met with my daughter and I twice at my daughter's house. A Guardian ad Litem is supposed to evaluate the situation and decide what is best for the children. Unfortunately, this Guardian ad Litem never took the time to observe anything concerning my daughter and/or her relationship with her children. Instead, she relied solely on the word of my ex-son-in-law.

I tried to inform her of problems that I witnessed, but our Guardian ad Litem ignored all of these. For example, when my granddaughter threatened suicide, I told our Guardian ad Litem and she never took it into account. She never addressed the situation.... Never even believed me, even though she appointed me supervisor. That is a situation no one should ignore, especially from a child. It's appalling to think someone working for the benefit of children would do absolutely nothing. There are many more incidents that occurred, but we are pressed for time. It's a great injustice to allow Guardian ad Litem's to wield this kind of unchecked power.